

Recruiting QuIP researchers

For a standard single QuIP, the data collection teams usually consist of:

- One lead researcher who manages the team, co-ordinates access to the sites and assures quality control
- Two researchers (typically one male & one female) who conduct the interviews and write up the summary transcripts

When hiring a team of QuIP researchers there are a few key attributes to look out for:

Qualifications and experience

- Social scientists, post-graduate level
- Experience of conducting qualitative studies
 - Researchers need to have the ability to use a semi-structured interview to probe for stories of change without always following a detailed questionnaire. This requires 'active listening' to ensure that they ask appropriate probing questions to capture sufficient detail about causal mechanisms, but without leading or prompting respondents to respond in a certain way. This requires skills beyond that of enumerators as they should be able to iterate confidently around a core questionnaire.
 - Researchers should be able to put respondents from a range of different contexts and environments at ease and encourage an open conversation which may last around an hour.

Knowledge and skills

- Knowledge of country context
- Fluency in relevant local languages/ dialects
- Ability to write clear and detailed summary interview transcripts
- Good standard of translation into relevant languages (if summary transcripts are to be translated)
- Demonstration of some understanding of and engagement with QuIP principles
- Independent problem solvers – especially if the study is blindfolded
- An eye for detail and organisation

Practicalities

- Availability over at least a two-week period, possibly more depending on location and number of researchers

It is important that you arrange some QuIP specific training for the data collection team particularly since this is likely to be very different to the type of data collection they may be used to, even experienced qualitative researchers.